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# THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER

VOL. VIII.—No. 3.

NEW YORK, JUNE, 1886.

Per Annum, Four Dollars.  
Single Copies, 35 Cents.

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Entered at New York Post Office as Second Class Mail Matter.

## THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER CO.

JAMES A. ROBINSON, President and Treasurer.  
J. M. BOKEE, Secretary.  
A. CURTIS BOND, Editor.

Address all communications to

THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER CO.,

80 East Fourteenth Street, New York City.

Subscription, \$4 per year, in advance.

(PATENT BINDER, 50 CENTS EXTRA).

Single Copies - - - 35 Cents.

ADVERTISING TERMS: Single Insertion, \$3.00 per inch; 12 Insertions, \$25.00 per inch.

WITH this issue we have introduced changes, and we believe improvements, that can hardly fail to meet the approval of our readers and our advertisers, improvements that will make our paper more sightly and readable and interesting and, consequently, more valuable. We do not propose to limit our advancement to merely that of a typographical nature but hope in all ways to place ourselves ahead of our former selves and thus ahead of all other journals in the same field.

### OUR COLORED PLATE.

AGAIN we present to our readers designs for ceilings executed in colors—two styles, the Renaissance and Louis XV., the former adapted to a parlor or sitting-room, the latter to a bedroom.

The colors employed in the plate shown here are such as may be properly employed in the designs indicated, but they are not to be considered at all arbitrary; they may be changed at will by the decorators using these patterns to meet the particular necessity they may have at the time or the style of the room to which they may apply the decoration. It should be borne in mind, however, that half tints are always to be used whatever colors are selected, and the softness and delicacy that prevailed at the period when these styles were introduced and popularized should be retained.

The ornamentation of the ceilings is in strict accord with that peculiar to the styles themselves. The popularity of the Renaissance is reviving; it is used and very widely and generally and is apparently growing in favor with the public. Its more or less gaudy and flamboyant nature, graceful and easy as it is, very properly appeals to the universal disposition for something that is showy and, at the same time, has the stamp of good taste. The styles of the Louis' are likewise increasing in favor, their bright, vivacious coloring and the easy contours of their ornament inspiring a liveliness and gayety to the apartment that is delightful.

"AMONG THE TRADES" is necessarily abridged by the crowded state of our advertising columns. Several notes are thus left over for the next issue, as well as some inquiries upon china, glassware and carpets.

THERE is merit in the ambition of the employed to outgrow the suspicion of being possible strikers and sprout from the simple wage-taker without care or responsibility into the wage-payer with a fairly large share of both, and when this employee believes he has talent, when he is conscious that the entire success of the house employing him is due to his ability and, possibly, to his name, which, owing to the jealousy or maliciousness of capitalists has malignantly been kept in the background, the sight is doubly gratifying to witness this shackled worker throw off the "ties that bind him to another" and start out for himself. This is commendable and safe—if one is sure of his talent, that is the most uncertain element in the entire scheme, talent that has made the fortune of numerous employers, as evidenced by its own testimony, frequently fails to accomplish any result for its natural possessor.

There is no better opportunity given to study the truth or falsity of this proposition than is offered by the decorating trades. Every large house has had its distinguished assistant whose efforts have made it what it is and who has not been sufficiently appreciated in either credit or cash. Such assistants soon become men with a grievance and then they are certain to adopt some occupation that sits on them about as well as their grievance, and after a more or less exciting experience of a number of weeks or months, the duration being marked by the amount of capital at their disposal, they realize that genius for house decoration without genius for business cannot cope successfully with opposition and they retire or return to their former position.

It would be a safe course for bridled ability, tied down to a hard berth in a solvent firm and drawing weekly emoluments with reasonable regularity, to remain at the post and hesitate about tempting fortune and fame by outside enterprises.

THE following correspondence explains itself:

April 13, 1886.

THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER.

Gentlemen:—With regret I am obliged to tender you my resignation as editor of the Wholesale Department of THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER.

My reason for taking this step is that I find that my duties as Cable Editor of the leading daily paper of this country, which call for about ten hours night work each day, combined with the time I have to devote to your paper, places too great a strain upon me, and I am thus forced to give up all day work.

I thank you for your kind and gentlemanly treatment in all transactions we have had together, and sincerely hope that the future of your paper may be as bright as it deserves to be.

Very truly, yours,

WM. HARDING.

We wish to add that Mr. Harding's connection with us has been of the very pleasantest character, his retirement is entirely voluntary, and we sincerely regret the apparent necessity for it. Mr. Harding has our regard and best wishes.

We expected in this issue to add a department for the purpose of answering the many inquiries on house furnishing that come to us through the mails, but the crowded state of our advertising columns makes it necessary to postpone it until next month. With the July number we will begin the new feature, and we cordially invite our readers to ask whatever questions they may desire to have answered on all matters pertaining to furnishings of all sorts and household decorations generally, and we will answer to the best of our ability.